

# WORKERS ALL

THE glad news of victory in Europe rings through the workshops of Britain as well as through the camps of armed men.

The onslaught which carries the armies of the Allies forward is a triumph for the workers as well as for the fighters. Four years ago the workers in the factories of Britain set themselves the stupendous task of pouring out the equipment necessary to liberate the imprisoned peoples of Europe. They had to do it in conditions of air raids and blackout and in circumstances of stress and strain which would have tested the mettle of the most courageous warrior.

## Issues of Life and Death

The workers knew issues of life and death were in their hands. The grim, grey lines of tanks were vitally necessary if the hordes of tyranny were to be thrust back. So the workers of Britain "went to it" and have never slackened off. Theirs is the victory as well as that of the fighting men.

It has been a "workers all" victory. Thousands of our young men and women have mastered some part of the delicate art of aeroplane-making since the war began, or have delved into the mysteries of radio-location and worked cunningly to produce the heavy but very elaborate machines of war. It has been a combination of hand and brain, muscle and mind. They have shared the laurels of achievement with the "back room" boys who have planned and plotted the invention and provided the new gadget. The high skill of the labour with the hand allied with the quickness of brain have given a new standing to the worker.

FAR too long have our British methods of education glorified the position of the black-coated worker. Thousands of homes have had the ambition for their young people to join the ranks of the clerical workers, in the conviction that manual labour was undignified and mean.

## Badges of Worth

But there is now a new dignity of work. From the vast factories of Britain incredible quantities of war material have poured as a result of matching the hand of man to machinery. That combination must stay with us to produce the great quantities of material that the days of peace will call for. Those who work with their hands will enter a new kingdom of respect and honour in which the "boiler-suit" and "overall" will be badges of worth in the new technical schools of Britain where the wonders of science applied to machines will be learned. Just as some boys and girls learn the ancient classics for a career of teaching or administration, so the new race of learners will be workers of wonders with the latest devices of human ingenuity. They will be governors of the machines of which Kipling wrote:

*We were taken from the ore-bed and the mine,  
We were melted in the furnace and the pit—  
We were cast and wrought and hammered to design,  
We were cut and filed and tooled and gauged to fit:*

*Some water, coal, and oil is all we ask,  
And a thousandth of an inch to give us play:  
And now if you will set us to our task,  
We will serve you four and twenty hours a day.*

Black-coated and boiler-suited will have one common name, they will all be workers,

Mr Churchill has warned us that Britain must not have any drones in her national life and that the whole nation must work in post-war days as it has worked during the war. We must all be workers with the same high ideals of service and co-operation. There can be room only for workers who see something of the vision of Britain as the great servant and inspirer of all men.

RUSSIA has been a great example of a nation of workers dedicated to one task. The Russians have risen to noble heights of dedication and self-sacrifice in their victorious march to defeat the Nazi tyranny. That bold venture of the workers of Russia will go down in history as among the greatest achievements of man. It has been a workers' victory—workers of all kinds in the office and the factory, the field and the laboratory. This unique combination of hand and brain has given Russia her place among the nations.

## The Dignity of Labour

Here in Britain we shall not slavishly imitate any other people or country in our methods. But we must take note, not with envy but with pride, of the undertakings which the ordinary men and women of the world carry together, and carry triumphantly. For the farm with its increased importance, and for the factory with its new and complex machinery, her war-effort had provided Britain with a great reservoir of skilled labour on which to draw. The so-called inferiority in calling of "the worker" to the black-coated administrator is gone. They are now on an equality in human dignity. They are all workers. They may have different needs and may call for varying treatment in hours and rewards, but the essential brotherhood of all workers is now established in our national life.

IMMENSE ranges of skill and enterprise open out before the workers of Britain. The brain to adapt the scientific marvels of wartime to the service of peace is needed among us. The lightning communications, the air transport, all the benefits of the great advances in scientific engineering are needed for every man to enjoy. The skilled hands to build the machines are needed as well as the inventive minds to plan the undertakings. It may be that the world is on the eve of a new Renaissance in which the common arts of the common man will be lifted into realms of service yet undreamed of. All the vast inventive skill which the war has released needs to be used in the channels of peace to ensure a new flowering of the wondrous achievements of craftsmanship. The reservoir of services created by the war must be drawn on to dignify the common lot of man; to re-fashion his methods of life; and to ennoble his concepts of what life is meant to be.

## A Vision of the New Britain

This is a worker's task. It is the Renaissance of true labour in which the worker and the director combine to achieve a common, golden aim—the happiness and well-being of the many through the work of all. Nothing less than that can be worthy of the new Britain. This is the new Britain for which men give their lives and for which workers toil at bench and lathe. This is the vision of a commonwealth where work is a sacramental act, and labour is an enriching experience—the heritage of all.

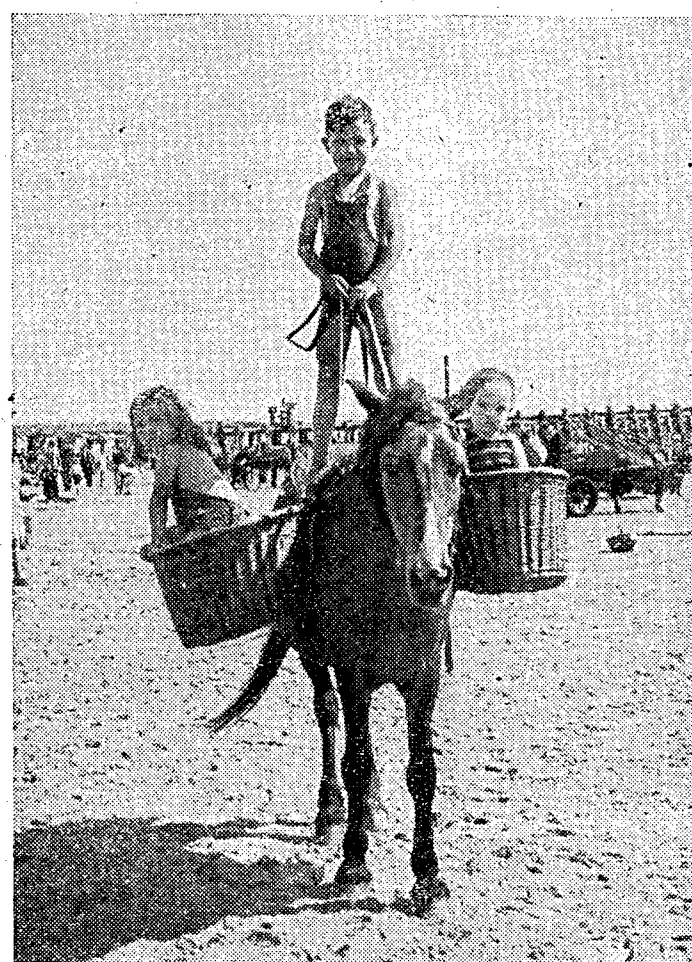
# CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

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FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE



## A Load of Mischief

Three little Londoners enjoy a pony ride along the sands at a South Wales resort

## THE MEN WHO GIVE US VICTORY

THE deeds of valour which go to make our victory certain are too numerous for all to be chronicled. They happen every minute of every hour and in a thousand places.

But outstanding in tales of valour is that of Flying-Officer John Alexander Cruickshank, who has just won the 101st VC of the war.

Flying-Officer Cruickshank, captain and pilot of a Catalina flying-boat, was looking for U-boats lurking in northern waters. He found one on the surface, and as he manoeuvred into position for attack he was met with fierce anti-aircraft fire. He ran in to release depth charges, but they failed to drop. During his next run the Catalina was repeatedly hit, his second pilot and two other members of the crew were injured, and Flying-Officer Cruickshank was hit in 72 places! Although in great agony, he pressed home the attack and himself released the depth charges with such accuracy that the U-boat was sunk.

The troubles of the men in the Catalina were by no means

over with the destruction of their enemy. For, with their plane badly damaged, and with the captain and three members of his crew wounded, they were 5½ hours flying time away from home! The excitement of combat over, the captain collapsed, and the second pilot took the controls. On recovering, the captain again took command, and although still bleeding he refused medical aid until he was satisfied that a course was set for home and all necessary signals had been sent.

Arriving home at last, conditions were unfavourable for alighting, yet Cruickshank insisted on being propped up in the second pilot's seat. He remained in command and directed operations for a full hour until conditions of light and sea made coming down a matter of comparative safety. He directed the beaching of his machine, and then, his long ordeal ended, the gallant young officer collapsed. It was necessary to give him a blood transfusion before he could be moved to hospital.

That is the tale of John Alexander Cruickshank's heroism.



# THE BATTLE OF GERMANY HAS BEGUN

THE inner walls of Hitler's Fortress of Europe are now being assailed. The sixth year of a war which, Hitler declared, would set up an Empire to endure for 1000 years has opened with every prospect of the speedy fall of the State that in its pride hoped to dominate the world.

This insane ambition which most of the German people shared with their Leader is being finally shattered by the hammering at their doors of the united forces of the world's freedom-loving nations, and by the risings in their millions of the underground patriots, whose faith in final victory has never been extinguished.

Events have moved so fast throughout Europe since the liberation of Paris that the pen of the recorder can with difficulty keep pace with them. With such speed did Allied tanks and guns, infantry-filled lorries and supply vehicles of every kind, cover the ground of north-eastern France that Belgium was entered and Brussels, her splendid capital, liberated within ten days of the freeing of her sister capital Paris.

## Memories of Other Days

In the headlong rush to reach the western boundary of Germany our eager men could spare but a glance at the fields they had trod in the disastrous summer of 1940, or at those their fathers had known so intimately in the four years of the First World War.

There were exceptional moments, of course, as when the Canadians entered again the Dieppe where they had fought and lost so gallantly in 1942, or when the 51st Highland Division looked in victory on St Valéry-en-Caux, where two of their brigades had fought to the bitter end against the fury sweeping through France in 1940. To the older officers and men there were memories of the Somme, with its long series of fierce encounters; of Vimy Ridge, for ever sacred to the Canadians; of Doullens, where in March 1918 Marshal Foch was made Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces; of Mons, where their earlier war may be said to have both begun and ended. While for the Americans were there not the Forest of Argonne, so hard to clear, Buzancy and Grandpré, and Sedan which they entered on the day of the Armistice?

## The Channel Ports

Glad indeed must all have been that these long-tried areas of France and Belgium were not again to become the cockpit of Europe; and glad, too, were we at home to know that their fierce energy had overrun the launching sites of the flying bomb and the Channel ports, nests of E-boat and R-boat.

The rapidly-moving armies under Field-Marshal Montgomery and General Bradley had in fact completely overwhelmed the German armies in the north and west of France. Few indeed can have reached the Siegfried Line.

A similar fate was meanwhile befalling the Nazi forces in the south, where Lyons, third largest city of France, was torn from their grasp. From the Rhone to the eastern frontiers, all France

was freed, and the army of General Patch had crossed the border into the Italian Riviera.

In Italy, too, a magnificent feat of arms marked the beginning of the war's sixth year. By secretly moving his main forces to the Adriatic flank, General Alexander succeeded in breaking through the Gothic Line, throwing open the wide plains of the Po Valley and the approaches to both the Brenner Pass and that low-lying hinterland to Trieste through which help can be sent to General Tito's patriot armies.

It may very well be, however, that the Red Armies, hurrying up the Danube may join forces with him first, before they strike northward across the Hungarian plain and Austrian lowlands at the vitals of Germany itself.

Terrific indeed has been the Russian thrust into the Balkan countries, with Bucharest liberated from German control and the armies of Rumania fighting on the side of the Allies, with Bulgaria at last rendered powerless, and with the Germans practically cut off in the Greece they have harried so cruelly and so long.

From the west and the south, therefore, the fortress of Germany is being invested.

## Finland Out

On the east the Nazi resistance to the Russian advance is that of an action by rearguards; while to the north Finland has at long last seen the inevitable doom of her arch-deceiver and, in effect, thrown herself on the mercy of a neighbour whose favourable offers she refused but a little while ago.

The German legions in Finland have perforce to make their way home, to be followed doubtless by those in Norway, in order to defend as best they can a desperate country, whose cities are bombed night and day from every side, whose inhabitants have been deprived by their Nazi overlords of every freedom they formerly enjoyed, and whose frontiers are being assailed with all the armoured might of the United Nations.

The Battle of Germany has begun in real earnest and those domains which were never to be touched by the hand of war are in their turn to endure the strife that the German people have so recklessly and, yes, so exultantly, imposed on their peace-loving neighbours.

Such is the prospect for a people who but five years ago looked forward to a German World Empire which would last 1000 years. May the victory which the Allies are about to win bring a world era of peace and goodwill which will last for all time!

## THINGS SEEN

A swarm of 25,000 bees being removed from behind panelling in Blackburn Grammar School.

Windfall figs on the pavement opposite the C.N. office.

# To Ensure Peace

We take these passages from the address broadcast by the Archbishop of Canterbury on the fifth anniversary of Britain's declaration of war. We should keep them in mind in the all-important days that are coming:

We look forward to victory as something within our grasp, and beyond victory to the use that should be made of it. We are concerned with the spirit in which we shall enter on the new era.

For it must be a new era, otherwise we shall have failed. It is imperative that we find the means of ensuring peace.

When the fighting stops we shall be very tired and easily disposed to shirk responsibility, to throw off discipline and to relax all effort. Some relaxation of course there must be. Human nature will demand it, and there must be a time of recuperation.

War-weariness may tempt us to reduce our burden to the minimum. We should brace ourselves now to resist that temptation.

So today is a day of dedication, dedication to the uttermost and without limit, for victory—yes, for peace beyond victory—yes, but beyond victory and peace for the glory of God, that we may take our place with "all the kindreds of the nations" as they worship before Him.

## Empire Casualties

IN the first five years of the war armed forces of the British Empire have suffered 925,963 casualties. They include 242,995 killed or died of wounds or injuries, 80,603 missing, 311,500 wounded, and 290,865 prisoners of war and internees.

This great total is less than the number killed in the war of 1914-1919, when the Empire lost 1,089,919 of its sons, and a further 2,400,988 were wounded.

To the casualties for the Hitler War must be added those for the Merchant Navy and for air raids. In British ship losses, 29,381 seamen have been killed or presumed killed and 4192 have been interned. Air raids have caused 56,195 civilian deaths, including those missing; and 75,897 have been injured and detained in hospital. Thus, our total of casualties is 1,091,628.

## GREAT GEOLOGIST

WITH the death of Sir Arthur Smith Woodward England has lost one of the most distinguished geologists of all time.

Born in 1864 and educated at Macclesfield Grammar School and Owens College, Manchester, Sir Arthur Woodward entered the Geological Department of the Natural History Museum when he was 18 and worked there assiduously for over 40 years, being Keeper of the Department from 1901 until 1924.

An authority on fossil vertebrates, his monumental work is the four-volume catalogue of Fossil Fishes in the British Museum. But a wider measure of fame came to him a year or two before the First Great War through his work with Charles Dawson, a Lewes solicitor and keen amateur geologist, in excavating and interpreting fragments of a human skull, now known all over the world as the Piltdown skull—the last vestiges of a man who lived on the Sussex Downs perhaps half a million years ago.

# LITTLE NEWS REELS

HUNDREDS of acres in India are being planted with cinchona to provide new sources of quinine.

A Swiss Alpinist has celebrated his 54th birthday by climbing a 13,000-foot mountain for the 250th time.

About a hundred different named kinds of wheat are grown in this country.

A farming school for boys of 16 and more is being opened at Branston in Lincolnshire.

The P.D.S.A. have rescued over 250,000 animals since the war began.

Remains of a Roman gateway have been excavated at Colchester.

The City of London has a new telephone exchange called Monarch.

Dehydrated carrots, cabbages, and potatoes from Canada, and meat from the Argentine, were shown to the public, first in dehydrated and then in cooked form, at an Army equipment exhibition in Glasgow.

The Salute the Soldier campaign raised £628,000,000, about £12,000,000 more than Wings for Victory in 1943.

American soldiers are buying the small clogs usually worn by young Lancashire children and sending them home as souvenirs.

## Liberation News Reel

TEN tons of maps were dropped from planes to General Patton's Army during its rapid advance into Belgium.

A French Expeditionary Force is ready to assist the Allies in conquering Japan.

A Bermondsey water cart is being used for laying the dust on a Normandy airfield.

One of the queerest theatres in the world is now situated in some woods near Caen. It is a vast cave which is being used by ENSA for entertaining Allied troops.

A U.S. Field Hospital weighing 171 tons and containing 3299 items, has been safely transported by the G.W.R. for shipment abroad.

Shells loaded with morphine, drugs, and blood plasma in glass containers were recently fired across a battlefield in France for the relief of an American battalion cut off behind the enemy lines.

Holes made by bullets or flak instantly seal up of their own accord in the new B-29 Super-Fortress pressure-cabin walls, which are made of a special shatter-proof plastic.

Prince Bernhard has been appointed Commander of the Netherlands Forces of the Interior, and Major-General Yvon Gérard of the Belgian Forces of the Interior.

## Youth News Reel

THIS week's fishing story concerns a Scout of the 1st Cam (Glos.) Troop, who, while in camp in Wiltshire, caught a tench weighing about 1½ lbs by grabbing it with his hands as it was swimming by in a canal.

Corporal Ronald Edwards, age 15, of the 6th Romford Company, has been awarded the Boys Brigade Cross for Heroism for diving repeatedly into the deep water of a flooded gravel pit and rescuing a drowning boy. Unfortunately, however, the boy died.

About 30,000 Australians are to be released from the Australian Army, and some 15,000 from the R.A.A.F., for work in essential industries.

During the war 5764 lives have been saved by lifeboats of the National Lifeboat Institution.

Nearly 3500 insulated banana vans are being used by British railways to carry imported frozen meat, in addition to their stock of 2700 refrigeration vans.

The long-distance walker Bert Couzens has set up a new record with a York to London walk (200 miles) in 36 hours 55 minutes.

The first of four twin-engined transport planes to go under Lend-Lease to Ethiopia has been delivered to the Emperor Haile Selassie.

The flagstaff which was once on the car used by Lord Byng of Vimy has been presented to the G.O.C. of the 2nd Canadian Corps.

Membership of co-operative societies in Great Britain has now reached the record total of 9,082,211.

The U.S. has built 65,000 vessels, totalling 9,000,000 tons, during the last five years.

One of the stately homes of England, Stukeley Hall, Holbeach, Lincolnshire, is to be used as a home for the aged.

A cameraman who hid for three years in Paris took films—described as the most dramatic news reels of the war—of the Maquis fighting in the streets of the city.

In the 32 days following the great break-through into Brittany, General Patton's Third Army took prisoner 73,500 Germans, wounded 62,500, and killed 19,000.

During the month of August the R.A.F. broke all records by dropping 70,000 tons of bombs on enemy targets, and Coastal Command logged over 30,000 flying hours in anti-U-boat patrols.

It is believed that in the Battle of Normandy alone the Germans lost 400,000 men, 20 generals, 1300 tanks, and 3500 guns.

More than 2250 aircraft have been supplied by Britain to the United States; and all aviation and motor transport fuel used by the U.S.A.A.F. in the United Kingdom comes from R.A.F. fuel dumps.

A South African R.A.F. fighter pilot who baled-out over Denmark watched a German football match before Danish patriots helped him to escape to Britain.

The Government of Czechoslovakia have declared that all citizens fighting the Germans, including guerillas and ordinary civilians, are members of the Czechoslovak Army.

Three hundred Scouts in camp at Hollidays Hill near Lyndhurst who were engaged in forestry work for a fortnight earned over £200 for their Group funds.

Twenty-five Scouts, 50 gallons of paint, and two weeks of diligent labour, have saved St Mark's Church (New York) about £540, members of the 133rd Troop, having undertaken the job of painting 18,000 square feet of interior wall space.



The Children's Newspaper, September 16, 1944

## THE HOMING INSTINCT

THE NFS has built up an amazing record of bravery and skill during this war, but there are many little jobs it does, as a matter of course, which are never heard of, though we would all like to pay tribute to them. Their rescues of animals, for example, are as splendid as their rescues of human victims.

Hearing the cries of a dog in a first-floor room of a shattered house, a fireman ran up a ladder, found the poor animal crouching in a corner of a smashed-up room, and brought it swiftly down to safety. Then he put it on the ground to recover.

Whereupon, doggie dashed straight for the ladder and up it at top speed, back to the very same corner from which he had been rescued!

## BATTLE OF BRITAIN DAY

SEPTEMBER 15, 1940, was the height of the Battle of Britain, when the R.A.F. shot down 185 German aircraft; and in honour of the fourth anniversary of the great victory R.A.F. stations all over the country are to organise colour parades, march pasts, and services.

On Sunday, September 17, Westminster Abbey and churches throughout the land will hold thanksgiving services; and it has been suggested that collections should be made for the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund.

## DROUGHT IN AUSTRALIA

FROM Australia comes news of serious losses through drought. The Southern States are said to be suffering from the worst dry period since those of 1902 and 1914.

Losses of sheep have been very heavy. On one far-western estate in South Australia the number has fallen from 10,000 to 1700, and in the western division of New South Wales losses of 50 per cent are common. The drought is also severe over Western Australia and the Northern part of Victoria. Thousands of breeding animals are perishing from want of food and water; and there is serious criticism of a lack of foresight in establishing fodder reserves.

In some places there has been a slight relief, for good rains are reported from some of the parched areas in the north of New South Wales and in south-west Queensland; but plenty of rain is sorely needed over New South Wales, all Victoria and South Australia, and most of Western Australia.

## The Plane as Peacemaker

WHEN the twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening of the first British commercial air service was celebrated in London recently, Sir Archibald Sinclair, the Secretary of State for Air, spoke about our future air policy.

Sir Archibald said that we were the first in the field and we meant to keep our place in the first flight of international air transport. It was right, he thought, to set before ourselves the aim that civil aviation should fly by itself. At least civil aviation could be self-supporting. Air transport should not be a matter of power politics, but of commerce.

Now that our fortunes were

A CONFERENCE of Statesmen of the Middle East on political and economic questions is expected to meet somewhere in Syria "at the end of Ramadan." That should be about the 18th of the present month.

Ramadan is the Moslem month sacred to the followers of Mohammed as that in which the Koran is said to have been revealed to him. It begins with the first sight of the new moon in August, and lasts until the first sight of September's new moon.

During that time Moslems are

supposed to fast throughout daylight, that is, from the time when a white thread can be distinguished from a black thread until nightfall. Throughout the duration of Ramadan no business may be transacted by daylight, no food or drink taken, nor any pleasures enjoyed. Such eating and transacting of business are the occupation of the hours of darkness wherever the Moslem law is obeyed. Even an important conference must wait.

Formerly the Moslem world set aside four months as sacred each

year. During those months no Mohammedan was permitted to resort to war; the Arabs removed the heads from their spears and were at peace. So strict was the law that if during one of these four months a man met the known murderer of the first man's father, he was not permitted to offer him violence.

Three months have lost their peculiar sanctity, but Ramadan survives, and during its present continuance statesmen of the Middle East must await the first peep of September's new moon.

## An Appointment with the Moon



Care-free days in the Lake District—at Ullswater

## THE LINK WITH HOME

IN the twelve months which ended on July 31 British children evacuated overseas and their parents at home exchanged 27,929 messages under the Children's Free Telegram Scheme.

Since the scheme was started in August 1940, Cable and Wireless Ltd have handled 127,007 of these telegrams, which enable parents and children to keep in touch by sending one free message every month.

Of the telegrams exchanged during the last twelve months 10,966 were to and from children in Canada, 9082 were to and from Australia, 4192 were to and from South Africa, and 3689 to and from New Zealand.

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIFTY children of Weston-super-Mare have collected £103 towards the cost of their own church. Their ages range from seven months to 19 years, and they meet on Sundays at a mission hall.

They pay 5s a week rent for the hall, but they are afraid that after the war they will not be allowed to use it, so they have decided to plan their own church.

## TWO VERY HAPPY EVACUEES

MONDAY, September 4, was a red-letter day for Tom Malcolm and Bernard Johnston, at the home of Mrs Lewis in Caergwrle, Flintshire, for on that day these two boys, evacuees from Birkenhead, had been with her for five years.

Tom was eight and Bernard was six and a half when they were first evacuated, and since then they have never been home, but their parents visit them as often as they can. Tom is a member of the 1st Caergwrle Company of the Boys Brigade, and Bernard, a member of the 1st Caergwrle Company of Life Boys, hopes to transfer to the B.B. this year.

Though many evacuees can doubtless equal this total of five years in the same billet, none we are sure will leave a bigger heartache in their foster mother than will Tom and Bernard when the day of parting comes.

## OLD BOB

CATS, dogs, and even birds have become very knowledgeable about bombs and bombing, but Old Bob of "Southern England" seems to be the most competent of robot-plane spotters.

Bob, who draws a light van, is 33, and is believed to be the oldest horse still at work in this country. Minutes before danger (states a writer in the Star) he gives warning by his restlessness that there is, quite literally, "something in the air." It was just the same in 1940. When customers on Bob's round saw him exhibiting signs of anxiety, they took to their Andersons.

Bob's friends claim in all seriousness that he is the most reliable spotter they know.

## Our Shipbuilders and the Future

THE progress of the war raises questions of great importance for the shipbuilding industry.

Anxiety has grown as pressure on the yards has diminished, for a certain amount of labour has been laid off and overtime reduced. The industry naturally desires to know what course the Government intends to take to provide employment lost by the shipyards. There is reason to expect demand by British ship-owners for specialised tonnage, such as tankers, passenger ships, and cargo ships for special trades, including fruit carriers, refrigerated-meat ships, and

## A SOLDIER FROM CRETE

An Australian soldier who has miraculously arrived home after spending the last few years in hiding on Crete has been talking about his experiences.

WHEN we first landed on Crete we were amazed to see old men rushing down the mountains armed with rusty Turkish rifles and knives, he says. "Who do we shoot at, the khaki or the blue?" they wanted to know, for they had no idea what the war was all about!

Even today there are Allied soldiers disguised as civilians wandering round the hills and villages in Crete. The populace do all they can to help them, but often all they have to offer is grass, which can be cooked by plunging it into boiling water, and a little oil.

The Greeks were often afraid that we Aussies were too reckless, says the soldier, and at times would beg us to stay in hiding and not move on. Gradually, as we kept our promises to return, and arrived back in a village still free after months of absence, we became a kind of symbol of freedom to the people.

## NEW LANDING CRAFT

MR JAMES FORRESTAL, the U.S. Navy Secretary, recently told of a new type of landing craft which carried aircraft. It is a tank landing ship which carries a small scouting plane which can both take off from and land on its mother ship.

## AMAZING GUN-SIGHT

A NEW gun-sight recently brought into use has made a revolutionary change in aerial combat. As a result of the introduction of the British gyro gun-sight Mark II D the efficiency of our fighter aircraft has been almost doubled.

This amazing sight is made up of numerous electrical units, each of which supplies information to a sighting head immediately in front of the screen on which the pilot sees his foe. On going into attack the pilot has only to make a few adjustments after which the sight will make all the deflection allowances necessary for the registering of a direct hit.

So fighter pilots can now open effective fire against an enemy aircraft even if both planes are travelling at a speed of over 400 miles per hour, at ranges of over 400 yards, and at angles which have been hitherto considered impracticable.

colliers. Existing yards may be able to deal promptly with such items.

It is notable that a number of shipbuilding employers are considering a scheme drawn up by the North-East Coast Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders to encourage the employment of university-trained men in shipbuilding. The Council of the Institution is anxious that an apparent gap in the supply of highly-trained technicians should be made good, and specific encouragement by an increase in the salaries of university-trained employees is suggested.



September 16, 1944

The Children



### The Scout Way

A Boy Scout camper who has found a satisfactory method of drying the crocks

## SWEDEN'S 30,000 GODPARENTS

Lady Low, the Swedish-born widow of Sir Sidney Low, has been describing in *The World's Children* the splendid work the Swedes have been doing for the children of their war-tried neighbours. She writes:

CHILDREN whose parents are in concentration camps, or are dead, or fighting, or otherwise unable to take care of them, have found more than 30,000 so-called "godparents" in Sweden. The godchildren are of many nationalities—Norwegian, Danish, Finnish, Hungarian, and Belgian. The godparents care for the children in two ways: they adopt them, or, if the children are unable to leave their own countries, they send them parcels with food, clothing, medicine, and other gifts. Last Christmas 90,000 parcels were sent to Norway alone.

It is only natural that Sweden's brother-land, Norway, should be nearest to her heart. According to recent reports Sweden is at present giving at least one meal

a day to 110,000 Norwegian schoolchildren. The sums collected in Sweden for the maintenance of this and other relief work in Norway amount to about £2,000,000.

The distribution of Swedish foodstuffs and other forms of relief work in Norway is supervised by Swedish citizens living there, who work in co-operation with the Red Cross and other relief organisations and exercise effective control, so that the foodstuffs and gifts reach the right persons. All administration costs are paid by the Swedish Trade Union Federation.

Six homes for Norwegian children have now been established in different parts of the country by the Swedish Red Cross. Sweden has also been able to send food to children in France and in Greece.

The Save the Children Society in Sweden is at present caring for 20,400 children, including 2300 Swedish, 9000 Finnish, 7500 Norwegian, 170 Danish, 800 French, and 700 Belgian children.

## A World Food Policy

A DRAFT plan for a permanent world food and agriculture organisation has been unanimously agreed on by a United Nations Commission which the Hot Springs Conference established in May 1943. In its first report, the Commission states that recent discoveries have made it possible for all people to achieve freedom from hunger—the first step towards freedom from want. No nation can attain this by its own efforts solely, but all can reasonably expect to solve the problem if they get together.

It is therefore proposed that a permanent organisation should be set up at an early date, and not deferred until after the war. If 20 nations formally accept the idea, the proposed constitu-

tion will come into force. Its function will be to collect, analyse, and spread information about nutrition, food, and agriculture. There will be a director-general and staff and an executive committee of from 9 to 15 members, who will act as representatives of the Conference, and not of their respective governments. Forty-five nations are nominated as eligible for original membership. The provisional budget for the first financial year is proposed at 2,500,000 US dollars, of which the United States is to contribute 25 per cent and the United Kingdom 15 per cent.

So we get a glimpse of a solution of a problem once thought insoluble.

## Book-Lovers of Central Africa

IN the great copper-mining areas in Northern Rhodesia, busy pouring out copper for the war effort, there are about 17,000 miners, drawn mostly from primitive villages. A good many of them can read and write in their own dialects, and now, with money in their pockets every week, they are demanding more and more books. The team of workers sent by a group of missionary societies has been selling large quantities of books, and most of them are small paper booklets which a man can roll up into the pocket of his working jacket.

The miners live in large compounds built of corrugated iron and work in day and night shifts of six to eight hours, and so have time on their hands for reading. The books most popular are those with a definite religious or moral point in them, and so there is a tremendous demand for the Bible. In some compounds reading groups collect round a lantern in the evening while one man reads out passages. This spurs on other men to learn to read.

The vernacular books of the various tribes are also popular, and then come simple English readers which tell African fables. Two of the main dialects, Bemba and Lamba, have English phrase books, and there is great eagerness to learn English in this way.

Small libraries are growing up in some of the compound huts. One man was found to have a library of sixty books in his hut. So far there are about 150 titles on sale in the mining area, and the booksellers and colporteurs as they make their rounds frequently get suggestions for new books.

The distribution of the books has been a matter of some difficulty. First of all voluntary colporteurs went round the compounds with boxes of books, but now there are regular bookstalls in the compound market-places.

Two of the men have formed regular discussion groups as a result of contacts round the bookstall. A bookroom, too, has been started at one of the main mines, where miners can come in and browse round the shelves. Most of the books are at the popular price of a "tickey," about threepence, and one mine has a subscription library of 130 members, with a debating group of over forty. This interest in books and reading has been spontaneous, and as the miners return to their homes, after the period of contract, they will carry literacy far and wide through Central Africa.

## No Summertime For Australia

AUSTRALIA has definitely decided to abolish summertime, beginning with the summer now approaching.

The decision was made unanimously at a conference of State Premiers at Canberra. Feeling on the subject has grown, as a large section of country people state that daylight-saving has disturbed the routine of their lives. Instituted chiefly as a wartime measure in Australia, daylight saving is now thought to be unnecessary in the Commonwealth.

## The EDITOR'S TABLE

### Field-Marshal Monty

OUR modern Cromwell, described by General Eisenhower as "one of the great soldiers of this or any other war," is now Field-Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery.

While feeling that this is a well-earned promotion, the Services and the public will find it hard to speak of "Field-Marshal Montgomery." To them he will remain just "Monty," a mark of the esteem and affection in which he is so widely held.

### What Young People Are Reading

IN a very readable booklet entitled *Publishing in Peace and War*, which has been published at sixpence, Mr Stanley Unwin upholds the supreme importance of good books as an integral part of the mental and spiritual life of the nation.

Having pointed out how the blitz and drastic wartime restrictions have seriously cut down supplies, Mr Unwin turns to the brighter side. The war, he says "has widened the public interest in books and deepened the realisation of their essentiality. It has helped to spread recognition of them as a readily available and inexhaustible store of knowledge."

"The most pleasing feature of all this is that young people are buying books, and not merely books, but good books. They want the best. It is additionally reassuring to observe that they are doing so for the acquisition of knowledge and the enjoyment of good literature, and not merely as an escape from war."

It is heartening indeed to be told this by so authoritative a publisher as Mr Stanley Unwin.

### JUST AN IDEA

A good walk may be an uncommonly effective remedy for a bad temper.

## CARRY ON

### THE TRIUMPH OF THE HIGHEST

THE whole story of man is the triumph of the highest. Not once nor twice, but many times, the world has been wrapped in darkness and doubt. It has been in the grip of terror, and men have gazed appalled at the power of evil things. But in the end the power has been broken, and Peace has come from the struggle purified and strengthened. *Arthur Mee*

### Heaven's Merciful Judgment

THERE is no place where Earth's sorrows are more felt than up in Heaven. There is no place where Earth's failings have such kindly judgment given. *Faber*

## PUT IT INTO YOU

THIS is the month when thousands of boys and girls go back to school. The trek to school is of the utmost importance, because who knows where, or to what, it will lead? At times it seems an interminable business, just going backward and forward to school. Will it never end? some of us ask. It will, and all too soon.

Many will go to school with a satchel slung over their shoulder, or with a small attaché-case in their hand. There are so many books to be carried. But there is something else in the school-boy's satchel, and in the school-girl's case. It is an invisible something; but it is very real, very important, and very vital.

A wise poet once wrote, "The secret of the future lies in the satchel of the schoolboy." Some of us don't know that; consequently we go blundering on, wishing for this, hoping for that; wondering why some things do not happen, and why some things do. We forget, perhaps we have never realised, that apart from books and papers, pencils and rulers, that bag over our shoulder, or that case in our hand, contains a very marvellous key. It is made to fit a large and

## Under the E

WASHING crockery is monotonous. We long to break the monotony.

A RAILWAY track is to be made through a forest. A branch line.

A SCOTSMAN says he always likes to spend his birthday in London. Has many happy returns.

GOLF Girl Strikes Oil, says a news-heading. Most golfers only strike turf.

PETER WANTS KNO



If the tide when Sou beaches open

## The Op

WE are the stars that light the endless night, And bring the world its music and delight; We are the seers who look beyond the tomb, And banish from the earth its grief and gloom.

We are the climbers with the fearless eyes, Who see behind the clouds the sunny skies; We are the merry souls who make life gay, And drive depression and despair away.

We are the sunny hearts who bring to birth, Your hopes and courage, laughter, joy, and mirth;

### The Cause of Unhappiness

It is not events that make a man's life unhappy, but his opinion of them. *Epictetus*



## IR SCHOOL BAG

lovely lock—a lock on that door which, when closed, blocks the way, but which, when open, leads out and on.

Education is a headline word today. Parliament has passed a new Education Bill—one of the best. It does not make learning any easier, but it does make it easier for those who want to learn. If you are going back to school, do not forget your satchel or case; be sure you have your books, sharpened pencil, ruler, and rubber. There is room in your bag for all these. But there is room also for that little invisible key.

But why not put a real key in your bag? Whenever you see or handle that key, it will remind you that "the secret of the future lies with you." That while at school, learning and growing, you really do possess a marvellous if not a magic key. It is the key which will unlock many an attractive door for you; and at the other side of that door you will find not only much happiness, but not only much prosperity, but also the very thing which the future needs to make it splendid and safe for you, and for everybody else who will be coming after you.

## ditor's Table

**PUCK STOW** GARDENS in hilly districts are liable to run to seed. Slope off.

**A LADY** asks how to make her pastry light. Put it in the fire.

**HITLER** might have made painting his life-long profession. Preferred a brush with the enemy.

**A HORSE** in Southern England can tell when a German plane is approaching. Knows something is up.

## timists

And we are they who drive away your tears,  
And all your past regrets and future fears.

We are the lamps that light the gloomy night,  
And put all sorrow and distress to flight;  
We are the harbingers of sunny spring,  
Who see the blest and best in everything.

We climb across our ruins to success,  
And change your misery to happiness;  
We slay the dismal phantoms of the mind,  
And are the staunchest friends of all mankind. *E. Oxburgh*

## Riches For Posterity

THE writings of the wise are the only riches our posterity cannot squander. *W. S. Lander*

## Disgraceful Sanitation

THE National Federation of Women's Institutes in a report on their recent survey of water and allied matters, declare that village sanitary conditions are "disgraceful" and the lack of water a "national shame."

The report states, for instance, that at Cerne Abbas, Dorset, sanitation has not much improved since Tudor days.

About 2500 out of 3500 villages examined had a piped water supply to some part of the village, and about 2000 villages reported that their water supply was tested, but some Institutes stated that contaminated wells were still in daily use.

Many other instances are given of defects in sanitation, and we earnestly hope that the Ministry of Health has them duly filed for speedy attention.

## WISHFUL THINKING

A CORRESPONDENT asks readers of a newspaper the origin of what he calls "the hard-ridden phrase, 'wishful thinking'."

It is a condensation into two words of the old adage, "The wish is father to the thought." That in turn is a variation of the original phrase, which comes from the second part of Shakespeare's King Henry the Fourth. As the ailing king, lying in the Jerusalem Chamber at Westminster, sinks temporarily into unconsciousness, Prince Hal enters, and, believing his father dead, innocently removes the crown from the pillow. Returning to find his father waking, he cries with thankful heart, "I never thought to hear you speak again," to which his father, misguided by a moment's suspicion, answers, "Thy wish was father, Harry, to that thought."

From that comes the adage familiar to us all, and from the adage is crystallised the expression, "wishful thinking."

## STANDARD ENGLISH

THOSE books (the Bible and Common Prayer Book), being perpetually read in churches, have proved a kind of standard for language, especially to the common people. And I doubt whether the alterations since introduced have added much to the beauty or strength of the English tongue, though they have taken off a great deal from that simplicity which is one of the greatest perfections in any language. *Jonathan Swift*

## The Significance of Atoms

POUND St Paul's into atoms, and consider any single atom. It is, to be sure, good for nothing; but put all these atoms together and you have St Paul's.

So it is with human felicity, which is made up of many ingredients, each of which may be shown to be very insignificant. *Dr. Johnson*

## Education in Russia

THE Russian Commissar for Education, Mr Potemkin, states in his annual report that good behaviour has increased in the Soviet schools. The authority of teachers is treated with greater respect.

The majority of schools are "mixed," but Mr Potemkin does not give the impression that the capacity for study by boys and girls is equal. Some teachers went so far as to suggest that in reading Tolstoy's War and Peace, the boys should read the war passages and the girls the peace passages. There is no suggestion, however, on these lines in his policy.

Actual changes mentioned in the report are the introduction of good conduct marks and of rules about deportment, respect for elders, and the sense of honour; endeavour is made to improve discipline by forbidding unaccompanied visits to cinemas and theatres below a certain age; and the school entrance age is lowered from eight to seven.

Mr Potemkin directs attention to the urgent need for 80,000 more qualified teachers in the Russian republics. Measures have been taken to release teachers from other work so that they could return to school. In the past year teachers' salaries and living conditions have been improved.

The Commissar defines Russian educational methods as a combination of the principles of Lenin and Marx with the traditional Russian system. The best Russians, he says, have always aspired to humanism and democracy in education, associated with an ardent belief in the creative power of science and enlightenment, a love of the Fatherland and of the people, careful attention to the child's personality, and the encouragement of industry, personal modesty, and love of freedom.

## Snow White in Turkey

IT was a great day for Turkey when Kemal Ataturk decreed that her ancient Arabic characters should give way to the letters of the alphabet used in the Western world.

Such a great change could not have an immediate effect, but in the long run it was to make easier that contact with Europe and America which Turkey has so long desired, and which we of the West, in turn, are so glad to have. For closer contact means a better understanding.

We have been interested to see lately a little book called Karbeyaz ve Gülpembe, which is a collection of old stories and fairy-tales translated from English, French and Greek for the benefit of language students at the Lycée Antalya.

Snow White and Rose Pink, The Enchanted Pearls, and Stories of Hercules are among the translations, and the students are expected to compare these versions with the originals in their text-books and thus be encouraged to read more widely in the literature of other nations.

The CN sends its greetings to the students of the Lycée at Antalya and through them to the youth of our good Ally at the gateway of Europe and Asia.

## REBIRTH OF A NATION

THE wireless and the Press have combined in telling us the enthralling story of the deliverance of France after 50 months of soul-testing bondage. May there be whole volumes to come describing her restoration to life and vigour as a leading nation of the world.

For many years France has been as one of the great extinct empires of antiquity. She is as a man who, awaking after a long trance, finds that he has been regarded as one dead, and that his estates and functions have been disposed of by others. She is left with a mass of complexities, of things to do, of things to undo, with a veritable remaking of herself. For her it will be a tremendous adventure, meet for her brave heart and proud spirit.

As the subject state of an enemy with whom the outer world has no intercourse, France had been without effective ambassadors and other diplomatic representatives or, indeed, anyone to safeguard abroad those rights that had passed into the hands of the usurper. Her immense international commerce has temporarily vanished, and like her army of diplomats scattered throughout the world, must be reconstituted.

Like the great battleship Clemenceau, which was never completed, most of the Navy of France is at the bottom of the sea. Her mercantile ships, except those saved by the Allies, are sunk or in hostile keeping. She will need new warships for defence; she will need new fleets of merchant vessels to carry to and fro across the oceans the merchandise and raw materials that, in order to live, she must export and import.

Of her great colonial empire, French Indo-China cannot be regained until Japan is hurled from the company of Great Powers. None of her material losses affected our own empire more

bitterly than that. The surrender of Indo-China by her soulless quislings opened for the Japanese a back door into our Far Eastern defences, involving us in tragedy upon tragedy, culminating in our loss of Singapore and Burma, and the attempted invasion of India.

Her gallant leader, General de Gaulle, has declared that France must march into Germany, as a conqueror. Gladly we shall all acclaim that day. But a share in the Allied victory will not be enough to set against all that France has suffered. Her mines, her factories, with their precious machinery, and her means of transport had been filched from her by the Germans. How can she be compensated for their long withdrawal from her use and enjoyment, for the theft of all her resources, for the mountains of goods requisitioned but never paid for by her greedy invaders?

Nothing, above all, can solace France for the multitude of her sons, dead or broken during the years of their bitter toil as labour conscripts forcibly borne off to Germany. The redemption of her beautiful land is but the beginning of the story. She has drunk deep of humiliation and agony; indeed, her cup of sorrow is not yet empty.

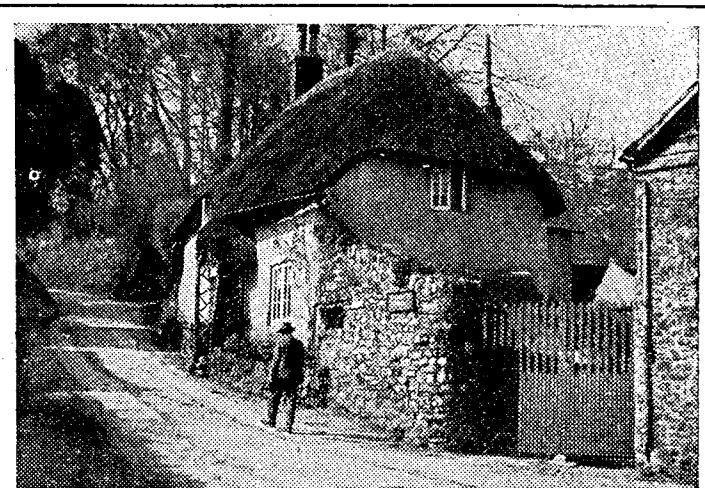
But we know our France from history. Her gallant people are unchanged in heart and courage. As her glorious spirit sustained her after the fall of Napoleon, and again after the gloating triumph of the Germans of Bismarck's generation, so it will reanimate her today and bear her to splendours of prosperity and culture comparable with the old. Long live France!

## A NEW FRANCE WILL SPRING UP

It is of interest to read today what Victor Duruy wrote in his History of France in 1873:

I VENTURE to hope that a new France will spring up, ardent in thought and action, to continue the glorious role played by the old France in the history of civilisation. The world has still need of this country, whose influence it has so long accepted, to whose attractions it cannot but submit. The world still needs this clear and sympathetic spirit

which has given Europe her ideas of right and wrong, which understands how to preserve in utility as well as in frivolity the traditions of art; whose unhappy political experiments have spared others her sad experiences; out of whose mistakes, indeed, the wisdom of nations has been evolved. Who knows but that the broken sword, left in our hands after a sudden misfortune, may not one day be required to defend universal liberty against brutal ambitions.



**THIS ENGLAND** A South Devon beauty spot, Cockington village, near Torquay



## PLANNING A NEW LEAGUE OF NATIONS

AT Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, on August 21, the representatives of three great nations—Great Britain, the United States, and Soviet Russia—held their first meeting to discuss the all-important question of establishing a New League of Nations.

The Conference, it was obvious, would be a long one, for its purpose is to make a plan for submission to all nations, as was stated in the opening speech by Mr Cordell Hull, which, with those of the British and Soviet leaders, was broadcast. Mr Cordell Hull said:

"The principle of sovereign equality of all peace-loving States, irrespective of size and strength, as partners in a system of order under law, must constitute the foundation of any future international organisation for the maintenance of peace and security. It is the intention of the United States Government, after similar consultations with the Government of China, to communicate the conclusions reached to the Governments of all the United Nations and of other peace-loving nations.

"As soon as practicable, these conclusions will be made available to the peoples of all the countries for public discussion and debate. We are fully aware that no institution, especially when it is of such great importance as the one now in our thoughts, will endure unless there is behind it considered and complete support. The will to peace must spring from the hearts and minds of men and women everywhere, if it is to achieve enduring peace."

Mr Gromyko, the leader of the Russian delegation, said:

"In order to maintain peace and security it is not enough to have the mere desire to harness the aggressor. It is absolutely necessary to have resources with the aid of which aggressors could be prevented or suppressed and international order maintained. Freedom and independence can be preserved only if the future international security organisation uses effectively all the resources in the possession of its members, and, first of all, the resources of such great nations as the Soviet Union, the United States, and Great Britain. The organisation will be based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all freedom-loving countries."

Sir Alexander Cadogan, on behalf of the United Kingdom, expressed satisfaction that in the "papers" giving the views of all three Governments there was such a large measure of agreement, and commented: "There seems, in fact, to be a general will on the part of what are at present the three most powerful States in the world to achieve some kind of world organisation, and, what is more, to achieve it soon. That should itself be a good augury for the success of our labours."

The Dumbarton Oaks Conference then settled down to its all-important labour, the results of which are looked forward to by all the nations, great and small.

## Happy Painter

Portrait and Pageant, by Frank Salisbury (Murray, 12s 6d).

WE have but one regret as we turn the last page of Mr Frank Salisbury's Portrait and Pageant, and this is what none of his paintings are reproduced in colours. Perhaps after the war an edition-de-luxe will be forthcoming, but in the meanwhile readers have full measure in both the text and the illustration of this charming autobiography.

Mr Salisbury reveals himself as one of the world's happy workers, and he dedicates this book to his great friend Arthur Mee, another happy worker, "whose wide knowledge and stimulating genius have won the admiration and fired the imagination of the youth of all ages of the English-speaking world."

In a later page Mr Salisbury tells of the portrait he painted "of that lovable genius, Arthur Mee, who was just celebrating his Jubilee as a journalist. What an accomplishment! What a profound store of knowledge and facts he had accumulated, what a wealth of wisdom it was his to pass on to humanity! He stood a veritable hero to the youth of the world. His own personal books, apart from his educators' and encyclopedias, have long since passed the million circulation mark. . . . I have never met such a worker. His letters to me were often dated Midnight on his Kent hill-top. What treasures he showered upon the world!"

The two friends were certainly well met, for the industry of the artist, too, has been prodigious. Yet what great compensations that industry brought! What many sights, what many lands! What human contacts, both with the great or those "common folk whom God must like because He made so many!"

Frank Salisbury's ability as a painter of portraits and historic scenes has introduced him to many of the leading personalities of the United States and the United Kingdom, and he has many a good story about them in this delightful book.

## LEND-LEASE TO THE END

IN his recent report to Congress on Lend-Lease, Mr Roosevelt wrote:

"Until the surrender of both Japan and Germany, we shall continue the Lend-Lease programme on whatever scale is necessary to make the combined striking power of all the United Nations against our enemies as overwhelming and effective as we can."

On this the Wall Street Journal pointed out that, by maintaining Lend-Lease aid to Britain after the German war is finished, the United States would be helping Britain to re-establish herself on a competitive commercial basis, while the United States will be retarding the reconversion of her own industries. The Journal added that the Lend-Lease Act was an act "to promote the defence of the United States."

The rejoinder to this is surely that by giving the fullest aid to a Britain fighting in the Pacific war, America is necessarily promoting her own defence.

## THE SUNS OF THE CELESTIAL LYRE

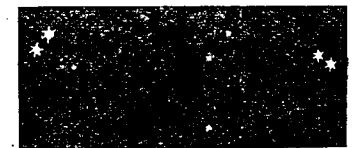
THE dark nights of next week will provide a good opportunity for exploring the stellar glories of the constellation of Lyra, the Lyre, writes the CN Astronomer.

Lyra was previously considered in the CN of September 2, when Vega, its chief star, was dealt with. On the star-map in that issue it will be seen that the two bright third-magnitude stars, Beta and Gamma, form a distinctive pair to the south of the brilliant Vega. Now Gamma-in-Lyra, whose ancient name was Salufat, usually appears the brighter. It is a great sun of the Sirius type, but actually much larger and radiating about 95 times more heat and light than our Sun, though from a distance of 150 light years—9,493,000 times farther away.

Beta-in-Lyra, also known by the ancient Arabic name of Sheliak, appears to the eye to be very similar to Gamma; but actually it is vastly different, Beta being what is known as an *eclipsing-variable* star. This variation in the light of Beta occurs at intervals of about 6½ days, during which Beta, instead of remaining at 3.3 magnitude and appearing as bright as Gamma, diminishes to 4.5 magnitude and is therefore relatively faint. Then, after a few hours' interval, Beta brightens up again, but only to dwindle once more, this time to 3.9 magnitude in the course of another 6½ days.

The cause of this singular and irregular variability is the fact that Beta is composed of two suns, both immense but one very much larger than the other. They revolve in orbits averaging 40 million miles apart, the smaller sun in much the larger orbit and planet-fashion round the larger sun, and at such an angle that, as presented to the Earth, one sun alternately passes in front of the other. They are such immense suns, of the very early and super-hot gaseous type, that their surfaces are comparatively near to one another; and this proximity causes a great tidal extension on the side of the hemispheres which are nearest together, so that they are permanently distorted into egg-shaped suns. These rapidly rotate round a common centre between them, once in the course of 12 days, 21 hours, and 47 minutes; and the speed of the smaller sun round the other averages about 115 miles a second. So when these two suns are presented separately and

sideways towards us, Beta then appears at its brightest. Then, as they travel round, they diminish until one is in front of the other. It is when the smaller sun passes in front of the larger that a greater diminution of light occurs owing to the partial eclipse of the greater and brighter sun. But when the greater sun is in front of the lesser a minimum diminution of Beta's light occurs and then, instead of dwindling to 4.5 magnitude, it diminishes to only 3.9. Frequent noting of the



The stars of Epsilon-in-Lyra as seen through a powerful telescope

relative brightness of Beta as compared with Gamma will permit these minima to be observed; when one is observed it should be remembered that it occurred 233 years ago.

The star Epsilon-in-Lyra is of great interest and will be found to the north-west of Vega. It appears as a little fourth-magnitude star, but sharp eyes may perceive that it is double, while binoculars will readily show this to be the case. A good telescope will show, moreover, that there are four stars there, arranged in two pairs as shown in the accompanying picture. Higher telescopic powers will also reveal four faint stars in between.

The two pairs are actually immense suns, very much larger than our Sun, which are travelling together in a north-east direction, each pair of suns revolving in orbits that are much larger than Neptune's. Their orbits are so great, in fact, that each sun takes something like a thousand years to revolve. Colossal eruptive outbursts appear to take place in the larger of each pair of suns. These occur with great frequency, usually at intervals of only one hour and about twenty minutes in one case and about five hours in the other. The evidence is obtained spectroscopically from the observed periodical increase in their light, which takes over 1000 years to reach us. G. F. M.

## The Wisdom of a Quack

WHAT German arms cannot achieve, Goebbels has sought from a cohort of hirelings. Before Paris was liberated a German broadcast informed us that all the Paris astrologers consulted by Goebbels, with one exception, prophesied that Hitler would win the war. As if such shrewd knaves would say otherwise to their master!

Cunning alertness is a fundamental asset of the astrologer and always has been. Sir Walter Scott, in *Quentin Durward*, turns the traditional astuteness of the soothsayer to brilliant account in an interview between Louis the Eleventh and Martius Galeotti, the Court astrologer.

The novelist borrowed the idea from an actual event in the life of Tiberius, recorded by Tacitus. Suspicious of the honesty of his "prophet," the Emperor asked him if he knew the date of his (the astrologer's) own death.

The quack readily replied that it would take place just three days before the death of the Emperor. The answer staggered the superstitious Tiberius. So, instead of having his astrologer thrown over the rocks into the sea, as had been his intention, he caused him to be taken care of, with every precaution for his well-being for the rest of his life.

The Paris astrologers of today are quite as astute as their Roman forerunner.

## BEDTIME CORNER

### Peter Puts it Right

PETER lived in a tiny fishing village.

He had many friends, but the one he loved most of all was an old fisherman with a wooden leg, who lived in a cottage by the harbour.

Old Tom was very poor, and Peter's Mummy used to send a basketful of good things to the little cottage whenever she could spare them from the rations.

Once when Mummy was away and Peter's Auntie May was looking after him, he felt very worried in case Old Tom would not have enough to eat. He told Auntie May about it, but she thought they must wait until Mummy came back.

Peter could not bear to think that his old friend might be hungry, so he took the basket and the half-crown grandpa had given him and hurried down to the village store. He knew what he meant to buy, a pound of sausages. His shopping done he walked towards Old Tom's cottage.

"That's my little mate," sang out a hearty voice, as Peter put the basket down on the cottage step.

"Good-morning," said Peter.

"Mummy's gone away, but you like sausages, don't you? I—I bought them myself."

Old Tom understood at once.

"Like them! You couldn't give me a greater treat."

And then he stopped, for Peter wasn't listening.



"Oh, look!" Peter cried, "that horrid dog has got the whole string!" It was the coastguard's dog.

"He was off with it like a flash of lightning—too quick for Peter, and far too quick for Old Tom."

Peter was terribly upset. The tears came into his eyes.

"Don't you take on now," said Old Tom. "I don't mind. Why, who's this?" he broke off.

Peter looked up. It was Auntie May. She held out a basket—much larger than Peter's.

"Here you are, Peter, something tasty for your friend," she said.



## Mr Churchill's Hats AND SOME OTHERS

WHEN Mr Churchill stepped out of his aeroplane on his recent visit to Rome, he was wearing, state newspaper correspondents, a very large grey-blue velour hat.

It is a well-known fact that Mr Churchill is partial not only to a good cigar but also to variety in hats. When in Teheran he was presented with a caracul, a kind of fez, a gift which was a welcome addition to a series which includes a bowler he wore as a boy of 12, a beret, a steel helmet, a topee, a panama, a cockade, and a sealskin wedge from Canada. There is no doubt that our Prime Minister delights in new headgear; and perhaps one day some enterprising collector of photographs will arrange an exhibition of what he might call Churchill hats down the years.

All this reminds us that there is not a little historical interest in hats. President Kruger always wore a top hat; and, as many British soldiers who have visited Pretoria know, his statue there shows him wearing a top hat which is hollow and therefore often full of rainwater. The President's hat thus makes an excellent bird-bath.

The only man to wear a hat in America's Hall of Fame is our own William Penn, the Quaker who refused to remove his hat even in the presence of a king. In accordance with the custom of the Quakers William Penn kept his hat on during an audience with Charles the Second. To rebuke him the king removed his own hat, saying: "In this place but one man is allowed to stand covered."

Unconscious of his offence, William Penn replied innocently, "Friend Charles, keep thy hat on!"

There is a story that when Sir Walter Raleigh was on his way to execution an old man pressed through the crowd to see him. When Sir Walter asked what he wanted the man replied: "Nothing, sir, but to see you and to pray for you."

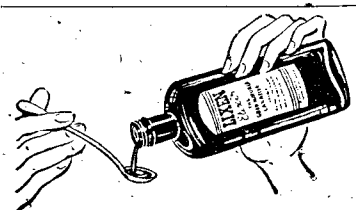
Observing his bald head, Sir Walter replied: "Here, take this night-cap, for thou hast more need of it than I."

Thomas Carlyle wore a queer hat. The eighth Duke of Devonshire went on wearing a favourite hat long after it ought to have been discarded, and even after 44 ladies had sent him a new one apiece as a hint. Lord Hawke, the famous cricketer, wore his cap back to front. Arthur Balfour was noted for his "deerstalker." Lord Nelson was proud of his cocked hat worn at the Battle of the Nile; and at Newstead Abbey in Nottinghamshire is preserved the old and battered hat worn by David Livingstone in Africa, and thought to have been the one he raised when he met Stanley.

To return to Mr Churchill, will he carry something very special in hats when he announces the great news of Victory?

## State Industry

THE General Council of the Trades Union Congress has for consideration at the next Conference a draft plan for the public ownership of such industrial undertakings as fuel and power, including coal, gas, and electricity, and internal transport. It is contended that public opinion, backed by wartime experience, is strongly prepared for the State ownership of coalmines and railways. These allied interests have been thus chosen because of their undoubted influence upon other industries, and their important bearing on the planned development of industry.



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THE GOOD-NATURED

*Laxative*

1/54

## PLEASE STAND BACK, FOLKS

"Would you please stand back, folks?"

The speaker was a pleasant young American soldier, belonging to a hospital unit. The scene was a little riverside town, not 40 miles from London, but so peaceful and normal that the many visiting Londoners might well be pardoned for their opinion that the inhabitants "didn't know there was a war on." However, that could hardly be the case on this summer afternoon, when dozens of American ambulances were drawn up outside the quiet station, and to the long line of the German stretcher-cases was added a batch of lorries and buses filled with "walking wounded," most of them apparently little scathed by the battlefield. Nobody could have been more at home than this friendly American.

There did not seem to be much of the typical Nazi arrogance in these prisoners from Normandy, the majority quite young, some not more than 16 or 17. One or two wore cynical smiles. But most of them looked out on the street and its calm little crowd of watchers as though they could not believe their eyes. This was the South of England, which Goebbels had told them was a "sea of flame and fury." Now that they looked on it, they were obviously wondering whether Dr Goebbels had given them all the true facts. Yes, here they were in Southern England, and the sun was shining, and the shops and houses were undamaged, and the people were serene and happy; a trifle curious about their guests, but strangely unimpressed—not a bit alarmed at the presence of the "Herrenvolk."

Swiftly, quietly, with amazing efficiency, the American Red Cross men got on with their job of loading the Nazis into the waiting train. And "would you please stand back, folks?" asked the traffic guard, getting on with his part of the job.

## BENEATH THE ROOFS OF PARIS

FILMS and their titles are seldom long-lived, seldom remembered even after a brief lapse of time. But most of us would recollect *Sous Les Toits de Paris*, and the man who made it, René Clair.

When the Germans invaded France, this brilliant director, unlike others who were willing to remain and "collaborate," made his escape and reached Hollywood. There to be welcomed as one of the few makers of films who retained a sense of cultural values, Clair has now asked permission to return to France from America. He wants to finish a film that was interrupted by the German invasion. The title of this film is *Fresh Air*. We think that he will soon be back in his beloved France, for Clair has earned a distinction much respected by all true Frenchmen. He was deprived of his French nationality by the craven former Government of Vichy. That was done because he shook the dust of a Paris in chains off his feet, and his reply was to busy himself in Hollywood with the making of clever anti-Nazi and anti-Vichy films. France needs men like René Clair today.

## A Temporary Gain For Japan

COMPELLED to withdraw from many strong points in the Pacific, Japan has taken advantage of the disappearance of the Vichy Government in Europe to strengthen her hold on the mainland of south-east Asia, in French Indo-China.

Looking out on Europe, the leaders of Japan may well have misgivings. Seeing what is happening to the German Reich, which they once regarded as all-powerful, they rightly fear for their own conquests. Steadily but surely Germany is being compelled to release her grip on her ill-gotten gains, yet at the very time of the Liberation of France, Japan decides to annex the French colony of Indo-China, under the style of an "autonomous province" of the Japanese Empire.

The Japanese have occupied strategic points in this rich and important corner of the French Empire ever since the fall of France, but they did not annex it. They appeared to be satisfied with the attitude of Vichy, which let the Japs do what they wished in the military field while maintaining a pathetic pretence of independence. Now the Vichy Government is no more, and Premier Koiso has told Admiral Decoux, the Vichy Governor-General of French Indo-China, that the country is no longer a French colony, and that he must look to Tokyo for his instructions in future.

Imagine the lovely little capital of Saigon, the "Paris of the

Far East," already sufficiently humbled, asking Tokyo's permission to go on living! All Frenchmen who have visited that charming place, or any of the other pleasant French tropical cities, will agree that the very idea of the Japs parading down their streets is nauseating. But although De Gaulle is in Paris and the Hun is on the run all over Europe, the China Sea is a long, long way from the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. The Allies are hitting the Japanese hard in the Pacific, but they are not yet near enough to Indo-China to make Koiso and his Mikado wonder whether their new "autonomous province" has a long future before it.

Nevertheless, the time will come when French tanks will rumble through the streets of Saigon, and when Frenchmen will regain their Indo-Chinese Empire. In commerce, industry, social welfare, and the arts, France has done great and notable things for the peoples of Indo-China. Japan, incapable of permitting civilisation to exist side by side with her own imitation product, will only succeed in making herself worse hated than ever in her stolen "autonomous province" before that time comes.

## Little Nurse

THERE was a happy little scene in a hospital in Southern England the other day.

A small deputation representing a borough which had suffered flying bomb damage had called to make a presentation to one of the patients, an American nurse. The gift was inscribed:

To our little nurse, who relieved the pain of forty Londoners.

"Our little nurse" is 24-year-old Felicity Swatz. She was quite new to London when a flying bomb injured her legs. Many other people were injured at the same time and for them it was fortunate that Felicity Swatz was there. For, forgetting her own troubles, she set about tending the wounded until all were removed. It was an example of Allied co-operation at its best.

## To Souvenir Hunters

THE Air Ministry, through the Minister of Education, requested both children and adults to leave alone the wreckage of crashed aircraft.

Although this warning applies equally to any enemy aircraft that may be brought down, it in particular refers to Allied planes which are forced down through enemy action or some other mishap.

It is of vital import that no parts of such aircraft should be removed or tampered with in any way. Every air accident demands an investigation by experts to find out the cause, and thus provide against similar accidents. Every possible bit of evidence must be examined, and what may appear to the uninitiated to be a mere scrap of useless metal may be the clue which the expert is seeking.



**"Won't there be  
searchlights?..."**

She has never known a world without searchlights. Growing up in the greatest war of all time, she does not even know what peace was like.

You are anxious to ensure that once this war is over, she makes up for the loss of so much childhood joy. You will look to her health first and make sure that 'Milk of Magnesia' is your standby — never absent from the medicine cabinet.

In the happier days ahead, as now, 'Milk of Magnesia' will keep her fit and free from stomach troubles.

**'MILK OF  
MAGNESIA'**

*Regd.*  
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*Cold seemed to  
stifle her until—*



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# The BRAN TUB

## UNANSWERABLE

"Now if I draw those lines out to any length," said the schoolmaster, pointing to two parallel lines on the blackboard, "will they ever meet?"

"Yes, sir," replied a bright boy, "if drawn-round the room."

## Onions and Eyes

PEELED onions make eyes smart because they give off a pungent vapour which affects the delicate nerves of the eyes, sets up a burning feeling, and causes tears to flow as a protection against the vapour.

## Pied Piper Jacko



"We must do something about these mice," said Mother as Jacko finished his supper. "I'll see what I can do tomorrow," said Jacko, as he prepared to go to bed. His eye fell on his tin whistle. "An idea!" he cried excitedly, and he took the whistle and began to play a merry tune. Swarms of mice appeared as if by magic and they followed Jacko out of the house by the front door. "Easy!" he said, with pride, and then—he woke up! For something had run across his face. It was a mouse!

## SO USEFUL

"MR MUDDLE," said the manager to one of his clerks, "the book-keeper tells me that you have lost the key of the safe and he cannot get at the books."

"Yes, sir, one of them. You gave me two, you remember."

"Well, what have you done with the other?"

"I took great care of that, sir. I put it where there is no danger of its being lost. It is in the safe."

## Rhyming Riddle

IN spring I look gay,  
Decked in comely array,  
But in summer more clothing I wear;  
When colder it grows  
I pull off my clothes,  
And in winter quite naked appear.

Answer next week

## Family Recipe for Summer Colds

Here is a medicine mothers have been using for years to stop those horrid Summer Colds getting a chance to develop. It's so popular now that practically every chemist keeps it made up and ready for use. It's known as the "Parmint" recipe, and one dose of this Parmint Syrup will prove how good it is. It brings almost instant relief to trying coughs and sore throats, clears the head and makes you well in no time. It's grand for kiddies too. They like the Parmint flavour.

Be wise. Get a bottle of Parmint Syrup from your chemist to-day and keep it handy. 1/5 the bottle including tax.

NOTE.—If you want to make it up yourself ask for a 1 oz. bottle of the Parmint Concentrated Essences (price 3/11). It is even more economical that way.

## His Daily Ride

A WORTHY old fellow of Ayr Tobogganed all day down the stair.  
He would chuckle and sing,  
It was hardly the thing,  
But the happy old man did not care.

## A PENNY PROBLEM

ARRANGE twelve pennies to form a square with four pennies on each side. Now rearrange the twelve so that they form a square with five pennies placed on each side.

Answer next week

## Nature News

IVY is coming into flower. It attracts a host of flies which provide a final banquet for the chifchaff before he leaves for his winter quarters in about three weeks' time.

## FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Happy Harvest Mice. Don lay very still, watching the tiny mice as they frolicked amidst the cornstalks. Their sandy-reddish coats, against the golden wheat, made an attractive picture. Something alarmed them, for they suddenly vanished into their nest, a dome-like structure of woven grasses, slung between several stalks, about a foot from the ground.

Don examined the nest, but couldn't find a hole.

"Harvest mice," said Farmer Gray, hearing Don's story. "Their nest is made in such a way that they can enter or leave it at any spot, and the walls of the nest close behind them."

## Other Worlds

IN the evening no planets are visible. In the morning Saturn and Mercury are in the east. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 7.30 a.m.

B D S T on Wednesday, September 13.

## Children's Hour

Here are details of the BBC broadcasts for Wednesday, September 13, to Tuesday, September 19.

WEDNESDAY, 5.20 Music and a Story. Willie Joss tells the story of Tammy Troot's Birthday, by Lavinia Derwent, while the BBC Scottish Orchestra plays some of the ballet music from Gounod's Faust. 5.55 Prayers.

THURSDAY, 5.20 Story. The Invisible Thief, another adventure of Norman Bones, the Boy Detective, by Anthony C. Wilson.

FRIDAY, 5.20 The Incredible Adventure of Miss Moon. Episode 5—Miss Moon Loses Her Temper.

SATURDAY, 5.20 Hadrian's Wall—a description by young people of the life that goes on by the Roman Wall from Bowness-on-Solway to Wallsend-on-Tyne.

SUNDAY, 5.20 Dr Johnson, a play in two parts by L. du Garde Peach, in the series Famous Men and Women. Part 1—The Dictionary.

MONDAY, 5.20 A concert by The Singing Wrens, a choir of over 50 members of the W.R.N.S; followed by a sketch, Truthful Tam Again, by H. S. Stewart.

TUESDAY, 5.20 I Want to be an Engine Driver, the story of the first day on the railway of young Jimmy Grey of Killingworth, by Patricia Docksey.

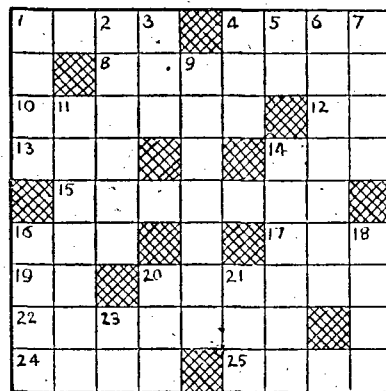
## Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 Here is all the fun. 4 A liquor made from honey. 8 A controller. 10 Small and active. 12 Royal Academy. 13 An age. 14 A West Indies islet. 15 Neptune's sceptre. 16 An outfit. 17 A serpent-like fish. 19 London postal district. 20 A Western state of U.S. 22 Gratiated. 24 Threefold. 25 Russia's former ruler.

Reading Down. 1 To wither. 2 To make known. 3 A quick smart blow. 4 To hinder. 5 For example. 6 Fizzy drinks are this. 7 A low, heavy cart. 9 Group of chalk rocks off the Isle of Wight. 11 A newspaper story. 14 The baker—the dough. 16 Retained. 18 A wild beast's resting-place. 20 A diminutive of Annie. 21 A veterinary surgeon. 23 Edwardus Rex.

Asterisks indicate abbreviations. Answer next week

The Children's Newspaper, September 16, 1944



## OVERDOING IT

SMALL daughter had been left to take the cake out of the oven. "Stick a knife in and see if it comes out clean," she was told.

"Did you do as you were asked?" said mother on her return from shopping.

"Yes, Mummy," was the eager reply, "and it came out beautifully clean, so I stuck all the others in."

## An Odd Monkey

THE colobus monkey lives in West Africa, and has a large fringe of white hair round its face and a white tail. The rest of the monkey is black. Its hands are its most striking feature. The thumb is either entirely absent or very imperfect. That is why the monkey is called colobus, meaning docked or mutilated.

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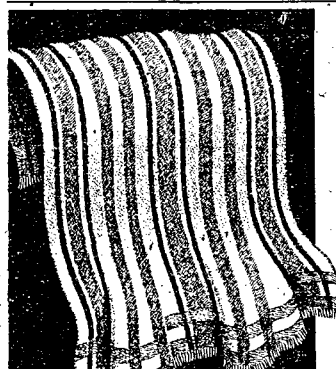
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